DETAILED ACTION

In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 5/6/2011 and 6/8/2011, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

A Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) has approved of reopening prosecution by signing below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 11, 12, 23 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Siegl et al (US patent #6,532,872).

With respect to claims 11 and 29, Siegl et al teaches the structure and method of a printing press as claimed, comprising: a print unit DE1-DE4; a drive unit 10 assigned to the print unit; a control unit 30 for regulating the drive unit; and a print mark measuring device and/or register mark measuring device and/or a register measuring device 3 including a camera configured to record or pick up a print mark of a paper track B, wherein the print mark measuring device and/or the register mark measuring device and/or the register measuring device comprises an evaluation unit (column 7, lines 4-11 of Siegl et al teaches that an evaluating electronic unit is included in the sensor 3) and are directly connected to the control unit to transmit a signal of the print mark to the control unit; wherein a correction factor is determined by the control unit 30 in cooperation with other control elements 4-8 based on the print mark signal to regulate the movement of the drive unit and improve a print image of the park mark. See Figs. 1, 7 and 8, column 6, lines 40-44, column 7, lines 4-49, and column 9, line 36 through column 10, line 36 in Siegel et al for details.

Regarding claim 12, Siegl et al teaches the printing press in accordance with claim 11, wherein the print mark measuring device and/or the register mark measuring device and/or the register measuring device are connected by a means for signal transmission to the control unit.

Regarding claim 23, Siegl et al teaches the printing press in accordance with claim 11, wherein the control unit has a master functionality with regard to further drive units or with regard to further control units. Siegl et al teaches in column 7, lines 12-17 that the control unit 30 serves as a master controller that controls drive units 10 of printing units DE1-DE4.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 18, 22, 31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Siegl et al (US patent # 6,532,872).

Regarding claims 18 and 22, Siegl et al teaches the printing press in accordance with claims 11 and 22, including using a signal transmission line to transmit the signals generated by the sensor 3 to the register controller 30 for further register control operation. However, Siegl et al does not specify the signal transmission line between the sensor 3 and the register controller 30 is a field bus system or a serial link. Nevertheless, Siegl et al does teach in column 7, lines 20-24 to connect the register controller 30 to the other control elements 4-6 through a bus system to transmit signals. In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in the art at the time of the invention to provide the signal transmission line between the sensor 3 and the register controller 30 with a bus system so as to make use of the existing signal transmitting technology already used in the printing press in order to achieve the predictable result of reliably transmitting the signals generated by the sensor 3 to the register controller 30.

Regarding claim 31, Siegl et al teaches the structure of a printing press, comprising: a print unit DE1-DE4; a drive unit 10 assigned to the print unit, wherein the drive unit comprises a motor 10, a power converter (motor controller 8) and an integrated control unit 30 for regulating the drive unit, and the control unit comprises an integrated evaluation unit (column 7, lines 4-11 of Siegl et al teaches that evaluating electronic unit is included in the sensor 3 or in the register controller 30); and a print mark measuring device and/or register mark measuring device and/or a register measuring device 3 including a camera configured to record or pick up a print mark of a paper track, wherein the print mark measuring device and/or the register mark measuring device and/or the register measuring device are directly connected to the control unit to transmit a signal of the print mark to the control unit; wherein a correction factor is calculated by the control unit 30 in cooperation with other control elements 4-8 based on the print mark signal to regulate the movement of the drive unit. See Figs. 1, 7 and 8, column 6, lines 40-44, column 7, lines 4-49, and column 9, line 36 through column 10, line 36 in Siegel et al for details.

However, Siegl et al does not specify the signal transmission line between the sensor 3 and the register controller 30 is a field bus system or a serial link. Nevertheless, Siegl et al does teach in column 7, lines 20-24 to connect the register controller 30 to the other control elements 4-6 through a bus system to transmit signals. In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the signal

transmission line between the sensor 3 and the register controller 30 with a bus system so as to make use of the existing signal transmitting technology already used in the printing press in order to achieve the predictable result of reliably transmitting the signals generated by the sensor 3 to the register controller 30.

Regarding claim 34, Siegl et al teaches wherein the control unit 30 has a master functionality with regard to further drive units or with regard to further control units. Siegl et al teaches in column 7, lines 12-17 that the control unit 30 serves as a master controller that controls drive units 10 of printing units DE1-DE4.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to REN YAN whose telephone number is (571)272-2173. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ren L Yan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2854
Aug. 17, 2011

/Judy Nguyen/
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